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VOUCHER	to Board of Na	tional Missions:			(Date Sub	mitted-Usuall	y 1st of Month)
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Dear Mr. Jackman: My first month on the field has been a thrilling one in many ways. The possibilities for service are so many that albedy I can see that full time could be spent at either the Sither Church or at Mt. Edgecumbe. as I become more Januliar with The work and people I hope to do a better job. Mrs. Swanson came to Setha to help with the Christian Education Conference on Sept. 7th as I had only been here one week. We felt a wonderful spirit among the teashers and people of the Sitha church and felt that it was successful in setting the tone of the year's work in Christian Education. The young people of Mt. Edge cumbe school have been assisting in the Tuesday Night meetings and with the Children's Senday School at the hospital. I found them very shy but very dependable and willing to help. Tuesday night a girl who read the scripture and gave a prayer said she had never done anything like that before. The was scared but she followed through the followed through. as I called on two patients in the hospital I realized I was not getting through to them. a natine house mother who knew the ladies saw me in the room and came in . She said, "World you like me to tell them what you said." She translated DO NOT WEITE NARRATIVE BELOW THIS LINE

EXPENSES ITEMIZED

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narratine continued the prayer and all that I said into Thlinget for them. Their faces litup and they told the house mother to say, "Thank - you, for them. I have found Presluterian people here just as wonderful and helpful as the ones we left behind. The Gavino have been so helpful in getting me established. All of the staff at Sholdon Jackson have been friends and have welcomed me to the National Missions family. I had a wonderful experience going to Presbytery at Craig and Klawock. Travelling on the anna Jackman, seeing the village churches and people, meeting the members of Alaska Presbytery, receiving such a Warm welcome, are all events I shall long remember.

MONTHLY REPORT, CONTINUED Report highlights of work accomplished, indicating progress in program for the year; relate successes, gratifying experiences, special problems or needs; and summarize special meetings and activities. If space is insufficient, use plain paper to complete report. Dear Dr. Jackwan: This month has had several high spots. Communion Services on World Wide Communion Sunday were especially impressine. Mr. Savin held Two communion services Seculary morning. The first service attended mostly by Sheldon Jackson and mt. Edgecunde students. The S. J. Chair sang. Two services were held at the hospital in the afternoon. The service was attended by the actine T.B. patients who were their masks, at 8 P.M. another service was held at the Church for people unable to attend on Sunday morn. On Weel, Mr. Savier come to the hospital with me and served 8 more patients most of them bedridden. Some of these could not speak English and so Mr. Savin told them to pray the Lords Polarger Joekson young people held during the week of special services was quite successful. Dr. Jockmean and Dr. Evans both spoke to the young people DO NOT WRITE NARRATIVE BELOW THIS LINE EXPENSES ITEMIZED Other Travel

(Original and 3 carbons)

The Dedication of the Church was a very happy Dasy as so many had given so much in money and physical labor to make the Church possible. The additional sroom for Worship makes the Church program much lasier. When the building is completely finished and the Church offices are established part of my work will be casier because there will be a better place to work. Dr. Jackman's reset to one field was definitely a high leght of this month. Roba Mo Clure

DATE_

Dear Dr. Jockman: November las been more of a routine month as we have not had quite as many special things happening. It has been a very busy month however as plans were made for the various Christmas programs and activities. The Church is planning a special treat or gift for each patient in the hospital and each student in the Mt. Edgenube school of Bresbyterian preference. The calendary arrived and I was very glad to receive them as so many had asked me about them. I plan to make up an order soon for a few items which I feel that I can use in either school or The Christian Ed program of the church requires a lot of time as so much needs to be done. a lot of contacts here be made to get things done. We are trying to get the youth Budget established in a satisfactory way this year. Sincerely, DO NOT WRITE NARRATIVE BELOW THIS LINE of Reba McClure. hospital.

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MONTHLY REPORT, CONTINUED (Original and 3 carbons) Report highlights of work accomplished, indicating progress in program for the year; relate successes, gratifying experiences, special problems or needs; and summarize special meetings and activities. If space is insufficient, use plain paper to complete report. Dear Dr. Jackman: December was a very busy month in Setha, Preparations for Christmas programs in the church required a lot of time especially since I did not always know on whom to call for help! The Deceons and Women's ass. of the Church provided Christmas treats for over 173 Presbaytereau preference students and gefts for our 65 or 70 patients in the hospital. I had the princedge of distributing the gifts the last two days before Christmas and Christmas Eve. Mr. Garin and I gone the treats to the students following the showing of the film Holy Night. Treats were distributed at the Proneer Home also. Just before New Year's Day the Scripture calendars were given to the patients. They really lone those calendars. They have them on their

a Christman party was held in December for all the young people. The farty was attended mostly by the Edgesembe young people as the others were involved with many DO NOT WRITE NARRATIVE BELOW THIS LINE activities. Reba McClure

EXPENSES ITEMIZED

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So many things happened during the month of January that it is difficult to know where to begin. The fire was the most exciting thing which happened, so we will begin there.

Parbara, the children, and I were just starting out for Sunday Church School at 9:35 on the morning of January 26, when "Putch" (the Tlingit Indian boy we are providing a home for) come running out of the church saying "Fire in the "Pec. Hall"! At first we thought that the fires in the "Rec. Hall" had gone out and the building was cold, but from the size of Putch's eyes we knew that there was something more than this. I ran in to see where the trouble was and Barb told Butch to phone the Fire Dep't. When I ran back out Barb handed me a fire extinguisher and it was soon used up and the blaze around the East chimney was still burning, but by that time the fire trucks had started arriving. The stove on the East side of the building had been dirty and filled with soot, and someone had inadvertently lighted the stove which had been flooded with oil from the night before. The plywood covering around the cinder block chimnet was too close to the stove pipe and it had caught fire. The fire had spread into the rafters and the Cellotex seiling. The fire was under control by ten and completely out by ten thirty. At least four rafters and the plate line were damaged and about one third of the cieling was charred. If some of the children had arrived early for Church school and opened the doors wide the whole building would have gone and probably the Church building along with it, and some of the youngsters could have been badly burned. The Lord certainly looks out after us. As it was the building had probably beansmoldering for two hours and the fire was gradually choking itself out for lack of air .. There was some water damage and one of the local carpenters has tenatively set the repairs at about \$650.00, but this will be covered by the insurance. This has also renewed some of the old arguments about the ownership of the building (City or church) and I hope that through the press of attention we will be able to establish the ownership of the building very firmly, and stop the arguments. We will be without the building for sometime, but perhaps if the city can establish ownership of the building this will point the congregation in the direction of a long-range building program.

Mr. Cleworth was with us here for several days in the early part of the month and reccommended several advances in the church's program. We have already embarked upon one of these advances and are casting about for volunteer personell to begin on the second. The firstx first point is the officer's training program. We met with five of seven elders present for the first session on February 27. The session was well received and it was then decided to invite the other church officers to meet with the elders. This would bring the total enrollment for the course to 15 people which can still be an effective discussion group. We are certainly looking forward to the remainder of the course. The Women's Association is also using the program materials effectively for the first time (Pible and Mission study) and a second session for the Church School was begun on January 28. More of this next month.

DO NOT WRITE NARRATIVE BELOW THIS LINE

EXPENSES ITEMIZED

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\$12.97....3/4 = \$9.78

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Our Church School "Second Sessions" were mentioned in last month's report but there was not detail as to what is going on here in the "Gold Rush Town". For about a year the local Assembly of God Chapel has been slowly siphoning off our Church School Attendance with two weekday "Clubs" for the youngsters. Perhaps, though, we would never gotten around to starting a program of this kind had not we had the stimulous. Certainly it takes a lot of hope to launch into a full scale argram of weekday Church School when a church is already two teachers short, and is also lacking a Superintendent. The program got into full swing on the first week in February and has been doing well since that time, in spite of the fact that we are working short handed. The regular Sunday morning session is limited to actual worship and study while the second session broadens out into handwork, games, refreshments, and more use of audio-visuals. The Nursery, and Kindergarten classes meet during the hour of Sunday morning worship (instead of the "nursery-for-church" as we had before) in the manse since the fire in the "Rec. Hall". The Primary and Junior classes meet on Tuesday afternoon after school in two of the homes. We are looking forward to the time that we will be able to to meet in the basement, but that is not yet, though the basement work is progressing slowly but very surely.

The second Officer Training class was held on February 10 with only four in attendance. The officers have agreed that this is exactly what is needed, yet it is like pulling teeth to get a representative turn out. The members of the Skagway church are so spiritually ignorant, yet there is certainly a great resistance to change and growth.

The big event of the month was a choir dinner and program on February 22. The choir is campaigning to raise funds for choir robes, and the dinner is a part of this campaign. In all about 120 people were fed and after expenses the dinner netted about \$160. Following the "Smorgasborg" style dinner the movie, "More Than Champions" was shown in the sanctuary. The dinner was held in the incomplete church basement. There were at least seven Catholic families present, and in all everyone had a wonderful time, and certainly the choir members were drawn closer together as a result of working so hard to make the dinner a success. Several people have commented that this was about the nicest thing of its kind that Skagway has ever had. The choir also plans to have at least two movies (the local theater has been closed about two months Now) to augment the fund. The Church School workers are also planning to work with the Women's Association to plan a "Cherry Dlossom Festival and Dinner" along the same lines after Easter. This will follow the World Mission theme on Japan, and we will have Mrs. Kase, The Japanese "war-bride" from Haines come up to speak and demonstrate clothing and articles of a household nature used in Japan.

The Church's Cub Scout program also got off to a rearing start in February with enough cubs for three dens, but only two Den Mothers. This program is a welcome addition to the community. DO NOT WRITE NARRATIVE BELOW THIS LINE

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The third of the Officers' Training Cessions was held in "arch with ten out of a possible fifteen efficers. The session was generally well received after the poor meeting (atterdance wise) in February. Discussion was good and a lot was brought out. The officers who have attended the evening services have actually been exposed to a tripple dose of this soft of thing. There pastor preached through the "Confession of Faith" last year for the evening service, then the new Communicants' Class materials were used for the evening service for the Cumiay Evening Services preceeding Easter. Each family had available the student book, "The May Of Discipleship" for family study, and it has been used in at least half of the officers' families. Actually there cannot be too much of this sort of thing, though, if the appreach is different in each unit.

There were two low points for the during the month. The first was the Session meeting. The session want over the "Survey Of A Field" point by point at the session meeting. All of the there had read the Survey in advance and were thoroughly familiar with the contents. The specific objections were noted in the Sessional Record, but the spirit of the objections was what hurt. One elder stated that he felt that the addition of the Assembly of God Chapel to the community had spurred our church on to accomplish some of the things which had become a little lax. This was fine. In the summaries along toward the end of the Survey it was necessary to make generalizations on the basis of the reports of factual materials included in the earlier parts of the Survey. Two of the elders felt that these generalizations meant that I hated Skagway, which is not true and I said as much, but went on to state that we could not begin to solve our problems until we were truthful about what the problems are. All of the elders agreed that the statements referred to (Under needs and problems in meeting the needs) were certainly true but shoud not be advertised. The meeting did not break up until after mid-night, and little was actually accomplished. I stated along toward the end of the meeting that In did not feel that I was getting the full co-operation of the Session. Only one of the elders is teaching a Church School Class and the remainder are not truly concerned about the Church School. There is still little concern about evangelism, certainly not enough for the officers to go out with the Pastor in making evangelistic calls. I have broached the subject a number of times, but have backed down before I was shouted down. When the governing body of the church is as little concerned about the only two basic concerns of the Church then the situation is not healthy.

The second dissappointment was in learning that we are losing the Public School Superintendent along with at least three other teachers (four out of eight teachers again). The school has had a truly good year, for the first time in a number of years, but I fear that the ground which was gained this year will be lost next year, and particularly if the young man (who taught in Skagway 2 years ago) the Board is considering is hired.

DO NOT WRITE NARRATIVE BELOW THIS LINE

EXPENSES ITEMIZED

Travel Gas and oil \$8.80 6.60

UNIT _

DATE_____

MONTHLY REPORT, CONTINUED

Report highlights of work accomplished, indicating progress in program for the year; relate successes, gratifying experiences, special

There were two big items in the church program for the month of April. The first of course was the Easter service. Eighteen people braved the rain to come out for a sunrise service which was the first that the Skagway church has had. Then we had 116 people out for the regular morning worship, which is about as large a crowd as we have had in the church since I have been in Skagway for a regular worship service. The choir sang beautifully under the direction of the new organist-director, Dick Akehurst. Mr. Akehurst is assistant organist-choir director for the St. Mark's Cathedral in Minneapolis, and he is in Skagway for the Summer before going back to complete his degree at the University of Minnesota. It has been wonderful to have him, almost too good to be true. He has certainly added a lot to the worship services, and has pitched in and helped with everything from temporary Scoutmaster to Church School teacher.

Presbytery came just after the middle of the month, and after the intrepid voyage of the Princeton-Hall, the delegation finally arrived in Petersburg. It was wonderful to renew acquaintances with the ministers and elders of the Presbytery and work together in the larger work of the church. The meeting of Presbytery always comes as a shot in the arm for ministers in particular after living in an isolated way on these coasts, without too much contact with "the bretheren in the Lord".

On April 26 the Women's Association and the Church School jointly sponsored a "Japanese Cherry Blossom Festival". A dinner was served buffet style in the incomplete church basement which featured Sukiaki, and various American dishes. Following the dinner. the three choirs sang a series of missionary anthems, and a program was presented. The highlight of the program was the appearance of Mrs. Robert Kase, a G.I. bride from Haines, Alaska, who was born and raised in Japan. Mrs. Kase served tiny slices of a Japanese type of sandwich made of shrimp, rice, and seaweed for those brave enough to try it. She had also brought along a number of Japanese silk kimonas, and other clothing which she wore as she told the audience something about life in modern Japan. Following Mrs. Kase's part on the program, the movie, "Younger Brother" was shown as the closing section. Eighty people attended the festival and th church school cleared about \$85 toward the purchase of chairs and other equipment for the basement. This was in spite of conflicting programs in town. A lodge dinner and movie (free) were scheduled after the announcement of the festival was out. We believe that the hand of the Lord was in this matter, for many of the people wanted to guit when they found about the Lodge dinner and program on the night of the festival, the competing commercial movie. and the other three money-raising programs which were all presented within a week's time. All of this was going on while we were at Presbytery. Barbara phoned Petersburg and explained the situation. I told her that the church had to take a stand somewhere, and she passed the word along to the folks here. We worked, but God granted the increase. DO NOT WRITE NARRATIVE BELOW THIS LINE

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Several Things stand out in the church program for the month of May. A definite step forward in the construction of the basement is perhaps the most outstanding thing. The Board of Trustees accepted a large donation of money to pay for the labor in the completion of the basement at the monthly meeting and this was accepted later in the month by the session. By the end of the month over half of the walls in the basement were framed out and the duct work into the sanctuary was completed. The work is done by contract to R.B. Hubbard with a deadline for completion on September 1, 1958. Most of the local officers feel that the day of volunteer labor is justmabout over in Skagway. We have little or no seasonal work in town, so this means that all of our people are employed on a 12 month basis. Nearly all of the responsible people have businesses of their own which means that their working days run to twelve hours six days a week. This leaves little time for volunteer labor. Work schedules being what they are, it is almost impossible to get a crew of men together at one time. This seems to be an equitable handling of the situation, and with the contract deadline we are assured of being in the basement this year.

Another highlight in the program was an outgrowth of the Session meeting. Several of the officers expressed the desire for an early morning prayer group for the men. On May 28 three of the elders and the pastor met at seven in the morning for a brief discussion of the spiritual needs of the town and the church. After the discussion we prayed together that God would lead us to answers to our problems. This same group of men has also expressed the desire to begin a regular plan of visitation this Summer for re-claiming the inactive members of the church and visiting prospective members. Certainly something like this has been needed for many years here in Skagway. I hope and pray that God will continue to guide and inspire us in prayer and visitation.

Our annual Vacation Church School began May 19 and ended May 30. Many have expressed the thought that this was about the best Vacation Church School Skagway has had. We were able to maintain an average daily attendance of 42which represents something over half of the youngsters in this age group who are living in Skagway. We were short at least two teachers but we averaged five teachers present each day for the group. The Sunday before the School began we had asked about every person we felt might teach, and we still needed at least one more teacher. One young woman who is not a member of the church and does not attend regularly came to the manse and asked if she might help. We eagerly told her that she certainly could and that she was the answer to our prayers. In February (and also in March and April) we had five more persons who had promised to help. By the last week before the school all five of these persons had backed out of teaching for one reason or another and nine others had been contacted and these also refused for one reason or another. In spite of this the youngsters came regularly and learned a lot. The weather was excellent also, and the classes DO NOT WRITE NARRATIVE BELOW THIS LINE met out doors much of the time.

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MONTHLY REPORT, CONTINUED

Report highlights of work accomplished, indicating progress in program for the year; relate successes, gratifying experiences, special problems or needs; and summarize special meetings and activities. If space is insufficient, use plain paper to complete report.

One of the highest points of the program for the month of June was the Junior Camp at the Rainbow Glacier Campsite near Haines, which the pastor directed. We were to have had three couples from Skagway to work with the counseling of the camp. At the last minute two of the coupies backed out then the Turner youngsters got sick and the pastor's wife had to stay at home to nurse the youngsters. That left only one of the original staff membersa, namely the Skagway pastor. The Bill Meyers of Haines House were released for the week then three teen age girls from Haines volunteered to come as junior counselors. With this group we shepherded the youngsters through a week of camp - all thirtyfive of them from eight to twelve years of age. Witht the exception of a few minor accidents, we had a wonderful camp. Certainly the dozen youngsters from Skagway got a great deal out of the camp and came home brim full of the ideas they had learned at camp. It is hard to estimate just how much good the camping program really does in the lives of these youngsters. For nearly all of them these is the only exposure they will get to Christian living during the year on a 24-hour-a-day basis.

On June 24 Dr. Jackman arrived with the Traveling Presbyterian Seminar, and the group was met at the air port then after a trip to the Pullen Museum and a chande to freshen up the Skagway people had dinner with the Seminar at the Elks' Hall. After the dinner there was a program at the church with speeches by the mayor and a representative from the W.P. & Y.R. Railroad and a program of colored slides. The pastor had the opportunity of going to Bennett with the group on Wednesday and chatting with Dr. Jackman on some items of business which had not been completed at the meeting with the officers after the Seminar program (though the meeting lasted til 1:30 Wednesday morning). Wednesday afternoon five of the Alaska Coastal Grummans were waiting for the Seminar and the folks were soon on their way. It was certainly an enjoyable visit for the folks in Skagway.

Another highlight of the month's activities was a Junior High Fellowship Party on the evening of June 20/ After a movie the young people gathered at the manse for refreshments, games, and songs. We had about twelve youngsters out for the party and though all had a good time most of these young folks do not come at all regularly to the weekly meetings. The suggestion has been made that we ought to think about having a party every week in order to get the folks out. We need to reach into the homes. Until the parents are committed the youngsters will not participate in any of the activities with any regularity.

DO NOT WRITE NARRATIVE BELOW THIS LINE

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With Daily Vacation Church School and Camps over, the month of July was a quiet period for the Skagway Church. The pastor spent considerable time in counseling and preparing for the vacation during the month of August.

The high point of the month's activities was the All-Church Picnic on July 27. The weather did not permit holding the picnic outdoors and the youngsters of the Church School did not want to postpone the picnic, so the lunch and the games and activities were held in the "Rec. Hall". A wonderful time was had by the fifty odd children and some twenty adults who attended. The place was noisy, but the youngsters certainly did enjoy themselves. The Church School is contemplating a picnic at Lake Bennett next Summer, if all goes well.

The month of July also saw a great deals of work completed on the Church basement. With the work being done by contract progress has been much more rapid. The pouring of the concrete floor for the rest rooms and the installation of the fixtures as well as the installation of floor and ceiling tile and painting still remains. We should be in the basement before winter.

Another Junior High Fellowship party was held the latter part of the month. The youngsters shared a picnic supper then went to the movie and returned to the manse for games and more refreshments. We have been having over half of the town's youngsters in this age group out for the parties, but we still cannot seem to get more than five or six out to the regular Sunday afternoon Fellowship meetings.

DO NOT WRITE NARRATIVE BELOW THIS LINE

EXPENSES ITEMIZED

Travel Gas \$6.78 3/4 = 5.10

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MONTHLY REPORT, CONTINUED

(Original and 3 carbons)

Report highlights of work accomplished, indicating progress in program for the year; relate successes, gratifying experiences, special problems or needs; and summarize special meetings and activities. If space is insufficient, use plain paper to complete report.

August was vacation month for the Turners. The pastor worked on a camping trailer until August 20, and the trailer was still not finished. The pastor's mother, Mary Turner, a house mother at Haines House was due back on the weekend, so it was decided to take only the following week and let Mrs. Turner fly back from Anchorage.

Most of the organizational meetings had been postponed during the month of August, and the church work was fairly quiet for the month. The only special activity for the month was a party for the Junior High Fellowship on August 1. The party was attended by some 12 youngsters and a good time was had by all. The pastor did four of the five Sundays of the month. Mr. Wylie didxmragh of Haines House did come up to hold the service on August 24. Evening services for the month were canceled.

We covered something over 2,000 miles on the trip, visiting all of the Presbyterian work in the Interior with the exception of the Artic Coast and St. Lawrence Is. fields. We spent two nights at the Harding Lake Camp with the Bingle's and the intervening time was spent visiting the Hospitality House, the churches and the University in Fairbanks. After nearly losing the drive shaft on the way in to Paxon we arrived in Anchorage sometime after mid night on Saturday night. Mother flew back to Juneau early Sunday morning and the remainder of the Turners attended morning services at the Faith Church. Sunday night was spent with the Campbells and the Turners were again headed back toward Tok on Monday afternoon. Monday night was spent in Glenn Allen and after a side trip into Valdez to visit friends we arrived back in Tok late Tuesday evening. We fished south of Tok on Wednesday and got back to the Junction in time for John Bartholomew's ordination. Early Thursday morning we were awakened by a banging on the Motel door and a voice was saying "Get out of Bed. Didn't you hear what Bert Bingle said last night (Bert had delivered the charge to the new minister which consisted largely of the admonition to get out of bed and get to work early every morning). I sleepily opened the door, and there was Roland Burrows, elder from the Northern Light Church. I asked what time it was. He showed me his watch ase he said "See it's already nine o'clock."Slowly it began to sink in. Roland had his watch on Juneau time. It was nine o'clock in Juneau, but it was just barely seven in Tok. At any rate we were soon on our way to Carcross, Y.T. We arrived in Carcross a little after mid night that night and boarded the train for Skagway the next morning.

We had been away only eight days, but Skagway certainly looked good. After a quick look at the various situations in the Interior, Barbara and I are a lot more content with the situation and the way the work in Skagway is progressing. After visiting at length with the Campbells I do believe that the Skagway Church can be self supporting in the next three years with any growth at all. We will certainly be working and praying for that end.

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Travel

Skagway Motors	\$14.85
Coyne Insurance Agency	64.60
Standard Garage	34.73
Paxen Lodge Service	10.00
	\$124.18
3/4≠	93.12

Other

The work which was done at the Standard Garage in Fairbanks was work which should have been done before we left, but parts were not available in Skagway. The Paxon Service charge is for repairing a broken Universal joint. The universal joint would have failed in normal operation in Skagway some time this Fall, though the vacation trip hastened the failure.

P.L.J.

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In the local church, September was a momth of planning and preparation for the Fall program.

The high point of the month was the trip to Presbytery in Craig. The pastor had a satisfied feeling that the business of the Presbytery had been conducted in the best interests of all concerned and that the work of the Kingdom is being advanced. Specifically it was encouraging to see the Presbytery seriously plan for the program of Evangelism in the individual churches in the coming year.

The session made plans for the arrival of Mrs. Swanson, the Presbytery D.C.E. in mid-November. The church is eagerly anticipating the help that Mrs. Swanson can be to the educational program of the church. Plans were also made for the church's first annual planning retreat to be conducted on October 5. The officers of the church seem to be feeling more of the necessity for long range planning. Heretofore the planning for the church's program has been done largely by the pastor. The officers are taking more of an interest in the actual planning of the work. A combination of circumstances have brought the church to a low ebb during the past month, and there is some question as to whether the church's stewardship program will be able to continue at the same rate. Mrs. Rasmuson is leaving the city permanently this fall and her contributions will be sorely missed. In spite of concentrated efforts by pastor and some of the officers we have not been able to replace the members we have lost during the past two years. There seems to be a growing antipathy to the church in many areas, yet church attendance has gradually increased. The lodges and social organizations have actually been hit harder than the church. In many ways the town itself seems to be drying up. Business is off for the local merchants who are the backbone of our congregation. People are less and less willing to work at civic projects, and there is a growing atmosphere of cynicism. The stewardship problem in the church is truly serious. Twelve families in the church are doing all of the work of the church school, Women's association, choir etc, and these same families are giving about \$500 per month into the church budget which represents about 5/6 of all that is contributed. We have reached a plateau of some sort, and something drastic must happen before there can be any real growth. The "fringe" members of the church just aren't interested. We have neither the people nor the money to increase the church program to attract new people. We are spread to thin as it is, yet unless we do gain new people the program is bound to start slipping. It is certainly hoped that the work of Mrs. Swanson and the visiting evangelist can bring about some sort of remascence in the church program this fall. The faithful few are getting stale.

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EXPENSES ITEMIZED

Travel

Parts, fuel, and oil

Other

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The high point of the month was the Fourth Evangelisti (xxxian Mission; Dr. Jim Cottrell of Tulsa, Cklahoma was our guest speaker. Cur program was somewhat different this year, and some new people were reached, but the support of the Mission was not what it has been in the past.

The officers and members of the church launched a new program in the month of October which we hope will become an annual affair. This was the annular planning retreat on October 5, following the World Wide Communicas Service. The purpose of the retreat was the planning of the church's program for the coming year. The weather was bad so the retreat had to be held in the manse, and being a new program the leaders were not too certain of what the goals of the meeting should be. All in all the retreat was successful in that the total program of the church in the areas of Christian Education, Evangelism, and Stewardship was considered at one time and priority dates for the various activities were established. After the retreat program has been in progress for several years we are hoping for more success in bringing all of the church's leaders into the overall program planning.

In connection with the Fourth Evangelistic mission instruction was given separately to the men and women of the church in Friendship Evangelism. The Evangelism audic-visuals were used and the response though vague was good. One couple in the church has already started a series of friendship calls, and at least three other couples are ready to begin. Cur church has gotten the reputation over the years for being unfriendly to new comers. We have finally realized the situation (certainly this situation was unintentional) and are trying to correct it. We are planning to continue the training in Friendship Evangelism through the Fall and Winter and launch our program in the Spring.

The final high point of the month was the opportunity that I, as Presbytery Chairman of the Committee on Evangelism, had in attending the Western Area Evangelism Conference on October 29 and 30 in Nerkely, California. The conference itself was certainly inspiring, but the opportunity to renew some old acquaintances and be a part of the discussion groups and bull sessions was highly rewarding. I have the feeling that our own denomination as well as the entire body of the ecumenical Protestant Church throughout the world is on the eve of perhaps the greatest age of the Church. There is a dialectic of concern that is piercing to the very heart of the Church. There is a certainty that the old tools and techniques are inadaquate in the new age, and that we must launch out into a changed world moving as the Spirit of Cod directs into new realms of devotion and understanding.

On Thursday, October 30, I had the privilege of meeting with Dr. Jackman and one of the young couples at the San Francisco Seminary, as we talked about the possibility of their service in one of the fields within the Presbytery. It was certainly encouraging to see this DO NOT WRITE NARRATIVE BELOW THIS LINE couple accept the challenge of the work.

EXPENSES ITEMIZED

Travel Fuel and Repairs...\$11.64 3/4 = 8.73

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DATE_

MONTHLY REPORT, CONTINUED (Orig

Report highlights of work accomplished, indicating progress in program for the year; relate successes, gratifying experiences, special problems or needs; and summarize special meetings and activities. If space is insufficient, use plain paper to complete report.

The High point of the month's activities was in the Family Night Supper program on the evening of November 20, and the low point was in the Every Member Canvass on November 30.

The first week of the month was spent by the pastor in a hunting trip in the Gambier Bay area hunting off Roland Burrows boat, the BlueStar with a group of men from the Juneau area. This was my first experience of getting game any bigger than the Texas Jack Rabbit, and it was quite a thrill to bring back a young spiked buck. This will certainly add to the winter meat supply. It was good too, to get to know Attorney General Gerald Williams, his assistant Daye Pree, Pete Nichol, supt. of the Mennfield home and the others who were along. The weather was stormy and the game was scarce, but a good time was had by all. I had arrived back in Juneau from the Western Area Evangelism Conference in Berkely and went straight out on the hunt after making arrangements by phone to Skagway.

Mayreld Swanson, our Presbytery Director of Christian Education, had arrived in Skagway when I returned and was busy working with the people who are active in our Christian Education program. Mrs. Swanson has certainly helped in a number of the areas of Christian Education. Of particular value has been the instigation of team and rotation teaching. This has already helped in our teacher recruiting program and it should be of even greater value as the teachers and the parents become more used to the program. Mrs. Swanson has also talked to a number of people in personal contacts who have agreed to help with the Church School program who had previously turned the pastor down. Other areas of emphasis and matters of technique which the pastor and his wife have been hammering away at for these past two years. Mrs. Swanson has been able to come in and say the magic word and the points were driven home. Our only drawback is that this has been a particularly busy time of the year and the other work of the church has suffered in order that Christian Education might prosper. I do feel that Mrs. Swanson should be considered an employee of the church in which she is working as well as the Board for the length of the time that she is working in each church so that she will feel free to work directly with the people involved in Christian education, leaving the pastor free to do the work which must be done.

On November 20, there was a Family night program at the church. After the supper the adults gathered in the sanctuary, while the youngsters saw a movie in the "Rec. Hall". The key people in the local church's Christian Education program were interviewed as to the part they had in the program, then the adults broke up into small discussion groups to condider three of the most pressing problems which face the church, then the ideas derrived from the small groups were brought back to the larger group. The meeting closed with a devotional.

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EXPENSES ITEMIZED

Travel gas and oil \$13.63 3/4 = 10.23

Monthly Report To The Board Of National Missions Skagway, Alaska

Narrative Section Continued.

We were amused and somewhat amazed at our young David, aged almost five, around the first of the month. He was playing with one of the little girls about his own age at the nursery which he attends Monday through Friday mornings. He had apparently said something which was not altogether true, and little Nina said David, you ought to be ashamed. God doesn't love liezs. David's face wrinkled up into a frown and he shook his head as he said, "No, Nina, God loves everybody."

The low point of the month was the Every Member Canvass. We had our training session the week before the Canvass on November 23, and only four people were present. All of the officers of the church and at least three men who are not officers were also contacted about helping with the canvass. We had five teams of two each lined up to make the canvass, then on the day of the training session only four showed up, then the day of the canvass two of these four did not show up, but two more were ready to go out. We had only two teams and there was actually only a token effort at a canvass since less than one fourth of the calls which should have been made were actually made. The preparation was adaquate, the mailings which went out the week of the canvass were read, and the homes which were actually canvassed were prepared and expecting the calls. Most of the men had plausible excuses, but the fact remains that they mainly just didn't want to do it. There had only been one other Canvass in Skagway when I arrived, so this is actually only the third attempt at a canvass. Last year we had two men who were enthusiastically behind the idea and they sparked the others. Even so last years Canvass was not so well prepared, and there was actually less cause for enthusiasm than there is now. The church has made some small but solid gains this year. The church has also not come in for the criticism and gossip that was rife about this time last year. Perhaps my effective ministry in Skagway is drawing to a close. Attendance and offerings, except for November have run ahead of what we had last year. We will be able to show a membership gain for the year, but the officers of the church are about back to the same place as they were when I arrived. I think of Msgr. Gallant, the Roman priest who heads up Pius X Mission here. Gallant has been in Skagway nearly forty years. He is one of the sharpest, hard working, and best liked ministers in the Territory. He now has the smallest attending congregation in Skagway and the least supported by the town. It certainly makes one wonder about the cause of Christ in the town.

There are very few things which I have insistently pushed to the point of being obnoxious about in my ministry. I frankly do not believe that this sort of an attitude does a great deal of good in the long run. I have pushed the business of lay visitation and I intend to push it even more strongly in 1959. We have already tenatively scheduled the Spring Evangelistic Visitation, the early Fall visitation for World wide Communion Sunday, and the Every Member Canvass in the late Fall. The dates should become concrete at the monthly Session meeting next week. The church in Skagway has gotten the reputation for being unfriendly and petty about criticism and gossip. This is a reputation which has stuck. Until the people of the town find out that being Christian does make a difference, the best program of preaching and pastoral visitation will fail. The officers of the church have felt that the Board of National Missions would provide a preacher, and the preacher would provide a church program. Once the program is provided, one may use it as one eats in a cafeteria, taking one or two items then leaving the remainder. Two of the elders have said that we should have the evening service even though they themselves were not particularly interested in coming. They felt that it would be good for some people even though it was not particularly good for them. This was going on in October when I tried to get the elders to either take over the youth program, or cut out the evening service so the pastor could do a decent job with it. They wanted to continue both programs much as they are, and this is still the situation.

We are now using the class rooms in the basement, so the Mission Prayer Book will be accurate this year for the first time in three years. Mrs. Swanson has generated quite a bit of enthusiasm for volunteer labor, and it looks as though we should be able to bring the basement to completion by the time Presbytery meetis here in April.

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There were several high points to the month's activities. With Mrs. Swanson continuing her work here through most of the month of December, the bulk of the efforts centered in the Church School

Team teaching was begun on December 2, and has continued with excellent results. Not a single class has gone without a teacher during the month which is some kind of record for December. Also during the month, Mrs. G.W. Self agreed to begin work as Superintendent. Mrs. Self had been working as Church School Secretary and actually doing most of the work, so she was a logical choice. She is a hard worker, and works easily with most of the people who are active in the church school work, so she should certainly do well.

On December 3, there was a general Church School workers meeting which was also attended by the Session. The object was a general review of the Faith and Life Curriculum and a preview of the new Quarter's materials. The meeting was well received and well attended. Our people were generally very faithful in their attendance at the extra meetings which were necessary while Mrs. Swanson was here.

The Open House on December 14 was really something new. The theme was, Church School for parents, and only the parents were invited, since there was no provision for a nursery. I was pleasantly surprised by the attendance, and the way the folks worked into a participation type program. The parents and teachers co-operated very well and a good time was had by all who attended. We are planning another program of this type for the Spring and hope for a better turn out then. The parents and friends who did come these time were certainly enthusiastic.

The Sunday morning service for Easter and the Church School Christmas program are always the best attended events of the year and this year was certainly no exception. Even the old-timers said that this was about the best Christmas program that Skagway has ever had. Parents turned out on three different ocasions to help with the costumes, while the fathers and others were busy building scenery and helping with the "animals". Our theme was "Christmas in Many Lands" which was worked around a family scene protrayed by the Burtons and their two older daughters (the littlest daughter not quite one was too young to have a speaking part and not quite reliable either for the Christ Child). Most of the credit for the program should go to Mrs. Swanson and Dorothy Self since they put in more hours than all of the others together, probably, but certainly everyone had a share. In spite of many last minute bloopers, the program came off without a hitch and lasted exactly one hour and three minutes. The parents were certainly moved byt the program and most have expressed themselves to that effect.

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MONTHLY REPORT, CONTINUED (Original and 3 carbons)

Report highlights of work accomplished, indicating progress in program for the year; relate successes, gratifying experiences, special problems or needs; and summarize special meetings and activities. If space is insufficient, use plain paper to complete report.

In addition to the statistical report on the reverse side, 7 copies of the Bible, 30 Portions of the New Testament, 55 copies of the Upper Room and 75 copies of Today were distributed, along with other devotional and Sunday School Literature to the Hospital Patients.

The work at the Island seems to be moving along at its regular pace. There have been known two problems, in connection with the Administration of the Hospital which have created some trouble. The basic problem is one of not being able to obtain lists of Presbyterian patients as soon as they are admitted to the San of the Hospital. Several patients have come to the San and have not been contacted by the church for two or three weeks. The other problem is one of trying to get the Hospital to enforce the rules regarding proselyting by other ministers. This week Mr. Gavin and I plan to submit an official complaint on this matter in hopes that this will bring results. For some reason the hospital is unwilling to take steps to enforce the rules, unless an official complaint is made.

Mrs. Van Pelt has taken over the work with the children in the Orthopedic Sunday School. She has been training several of the members of the Gospel team to help her in the work. Each Saturday she and two of the SJ students teach a "Saturday School" class for the protestant children in the Crippled Children's ward of the hospital

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MONTHLY REPORT, Continued

Report highlights of work accomplished, indicating progress in program for the year; relate successes, gratifying experiences, special problems or needs; and summarize special meetings and activities. If space is insufficient, use plain paper to complete report.

There has been quite a drop in the number of Tuberculosis patirnts in the Territory of Alaska, this past year. For the first time since it opening the Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital has vacant beds in the Sanitarium. The drop int TB patients is certainly noticable in the number of Presbyterian Patients.

Our count in October was 85 in the san, orthopedic and hospital groups. Our total count in these areas now is 45. This drop in number of patients has made possible a greater amount of time for visitation of individual patients.

Our work with the patients has also been made much more effective, through the use of the facilities of KSEW. The station has made available a 2 or 3 minute segment of time on San Serenade for devotional use. Through the time allowed we have been able to encourage the use of the evotional material provided to the patient be the church, The material ordered from our Department of Evangelism has come, and time on the station has made it possible to introduce our patients to the material before it is given to them on visitation days in the hospital. The daily visit, via radio, has greatly added to the total time spent with each patient. The patients seem to appreciate this opportunity for devotional guidance each day.

The Sunfay school at the orthopedic ward continues to be a source of training for the SJ students who are on the Goppel team, and particularly interested in this area of service. The children appreciate the presence of the SJ young people. These folk are quite often a link with home for the youngsters. On occasion their ability to speak the language which is used in the child's home, is the only contact or communication which the child has with others. many of the Orthopedic children can not ppeak english.

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During March the number of Patients in the Hospital has continuee to Drop, with several of the Wards in the San being vacant. For the first time, on the last Sunday of the Month there were no Presbyterian Patients at Alice Island (though there were about 6 Moravian and "ethodist Patients). This drop in numbers is reflected in the number of Pastoral calls made. The drop also makes possible a much more adequate ministry to the patients who are in need of spiritual counsel.

On the last Sunday of the Montye Mr. Gavi accompanied me to the San to visit our Patients there. We discovered several Pr4sbyterian Patients in the Sain or General Hospital that had not been reported to us. This is a constant problem, keeping an up to date record of patients. I have not had a complete list from Mr. Day since the first of January. There has not been a weekly revision of the list, as is supposed to be provided since that time either.

Mr. Gavin and I were able to visit, together, all but eight of our patients and to have prayer with each of these patients. They seemed to appreciate the visit from the church's pastor.

During the month we had a rally of all of the Presbyterian youth from the area. there are almost 300 Presbyterian or Presbyterian preference teen agers in the Sitka area. Of this number we only had about 40 from the 150 for which we prepared. Unfortunately the poorest representation was from S.J. The island youth turned out in good fashion, and helped greatly in the planning o the program. This is the first time that most of the group has attended any such rally and the idea was new and strange which accounts for some of the poor attendance. hose who attended were enthusiastic, and another such venture will, I think, prove more effective. the rally was held in the fellowship hall of the church.

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